

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 12, 2018

The Honorable Wilbur Ross  
Secretary, United States Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC, 20230

The Honorable Robert Lighthizer  
United States Trade Representative  
Office of United States Trade Representative  
600 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Secretary Ross and Ambassador Lighthizer:

We write to you regarding the status of softwood lumber trade negotiations between the United States and Canada.

The United States and Canada have enjoyed a long and prosperous trade relationship that has benefited the economies of both nations. Of particular importance to this relationship has been trade in softwood lumber, or lumber commonly used for wood-frame residential construction and for interior and finishing purposes, such as window and door manufacturing.

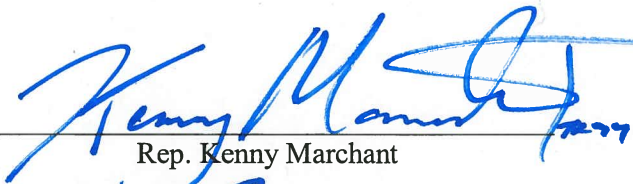
While critical to the economies of both the United States and Canada, bilateral trade in softwood lumber has been historically contentious. Since the early 1980s, numerous disputes have disrupted trade patterns, leading to unnecessary cost increases for industries that rely on softwood lumber, and straining the relationship with one of our most important allies.

In an effort to address these issues, the United States and Canada signed the Softwood Lumber Agreement (SLA) in 2006, establishing a system of fees and quotas on Canadian imports to the United States that can be triggered in response to fluctuations in the market price of softwood lumber. This agreement brought about a period of relative stability in the trade relationship between the United States and Canada.

The 2006 Softwood Lumber Agreement expired on October 12, 2015. With no agreement and tariffs averaging just over 20% in place, lumber prices have skyrocketed, hitting an all-time high this year. We respectfully request that you return to the negotiating table with Canada and redouble your efforts to reach a new softwood lumber agreement. It is our hope that in negotiating a new agreement with Canada, you will push for measures that take into account not only the impact of price fluctuations on the domestic lumber industry, but also the effects on those secondary industries and consumers that rely on softwood lumber for their economic well-being.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter, and we look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,



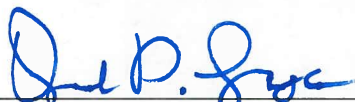
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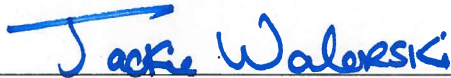
Rep. Mark Sanford



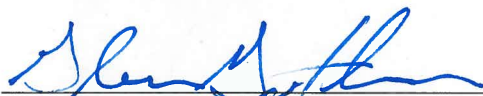
Rep. James Comer



Rep. David Joyce



Rep. Jackie Walorski



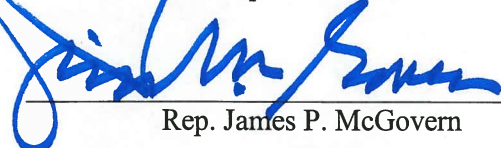
Rep. Glenn Grothman



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Rep. David B. McKinley, P.E.



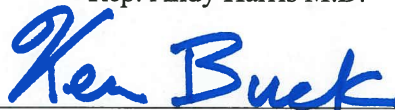
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Rep. Sam Johnson



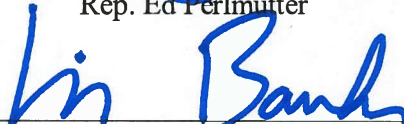
Rep. Andy Harris M.D.



Rep. Ken Buck



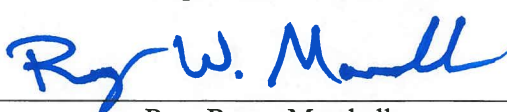
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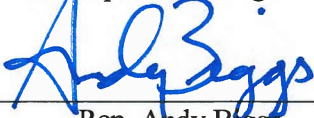
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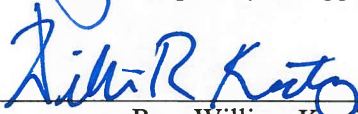
Rep. Dave Loebsack



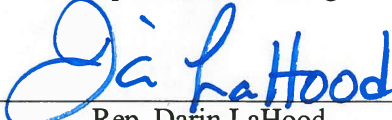
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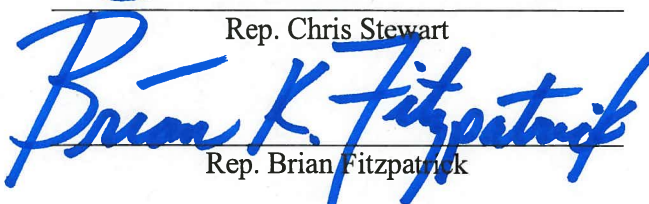
Rep. Darin LaHood



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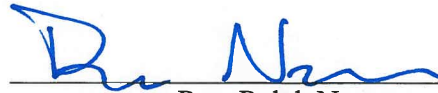
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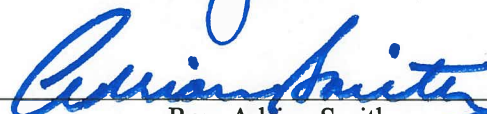
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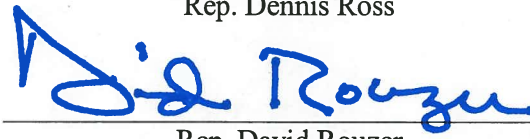
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Rep. Dennis Ross



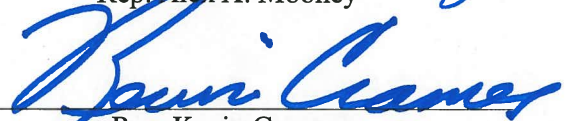
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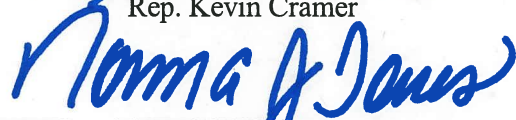
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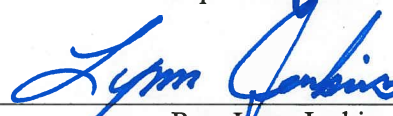
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Rep. Kevin Cramer



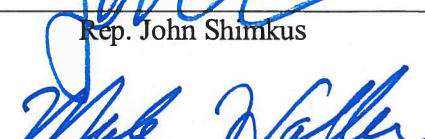
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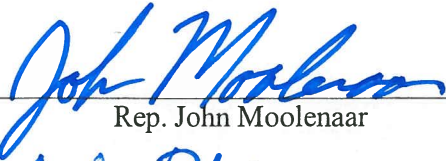


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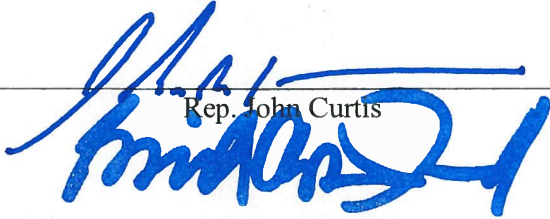




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Rep. Mike Bishop

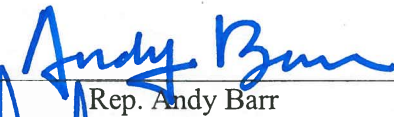


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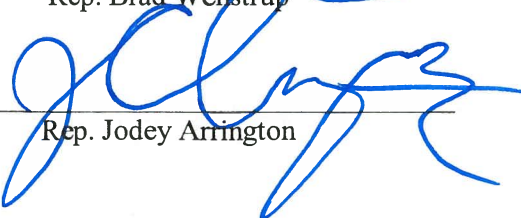
Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham



Rep. Darren Soto



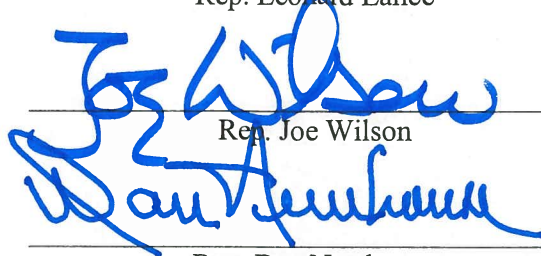
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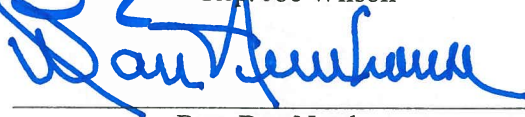
Rep. Jodey Arrington



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Rep. Dan Newhouse



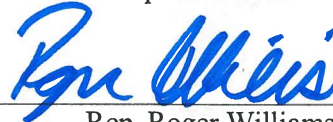
Rep. Dina Titus



Rep. Rob Bishop



Rep. John Katko



Rep. Roger Williams



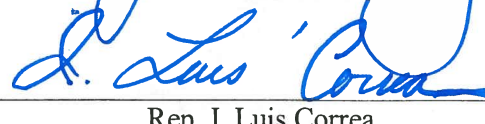
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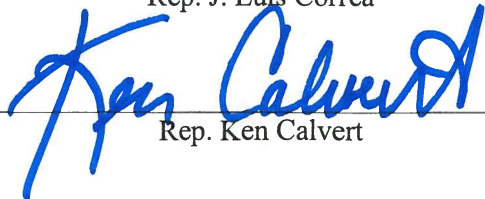
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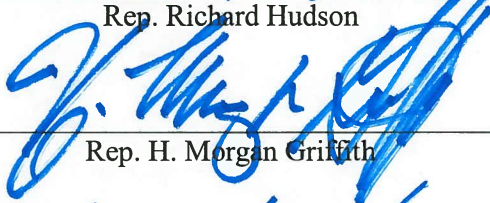
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Rep. Kristi Noem



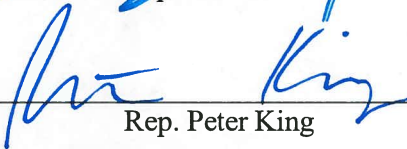
Rep. Richard Hudson



Rep. H. Morgan Griffith



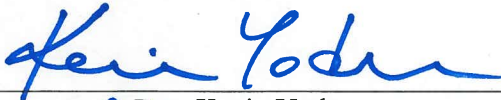
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Rep. Peter King



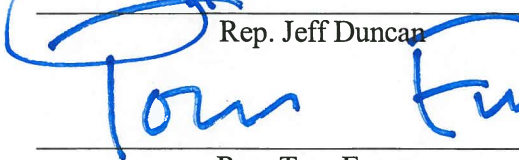
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Rep. Kevin Yoder



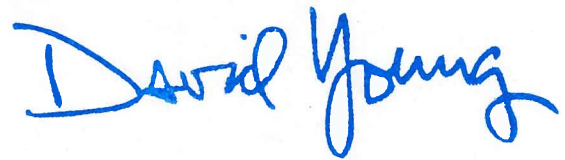
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Rep. Tom Emmer



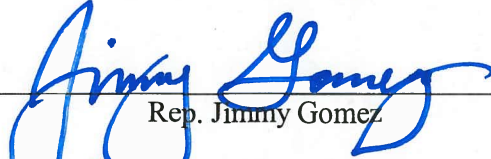
Rep. Kathleen M. Rice



Rep. David Young



Rep. Glenn "GT" Thompson



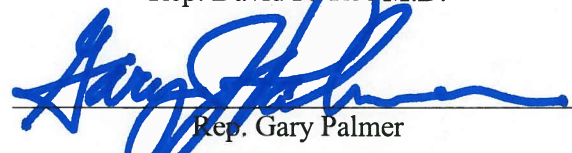
Rep. Jimmy Gomez



Rep. Jacky Rosen



Rep. David P. Roe M.D.



Rep. Gary Palmer




Rep. Jeff Fortenberry



Rep. Rodney Davis



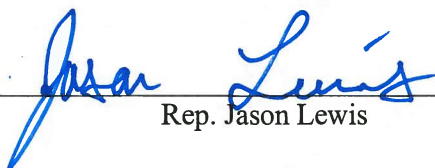
Rep. Rod Blum




Rep. Bill Pascrell



Rep. Debbie Lesko



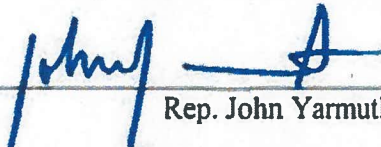
Rep. Jason Lewis



Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney



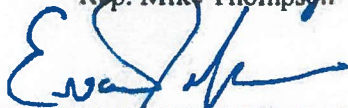
Rep. David G. Valadao



Rep. John Yarmuth



Rep. Mike Thompson



Rep. Evan Jenkins



Rep. Thomas Massie




Rep. Stephanie Murphy



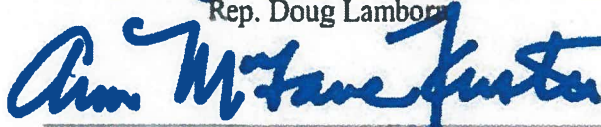
Rep. Virginia Foxx



Rep. Lamar Smith



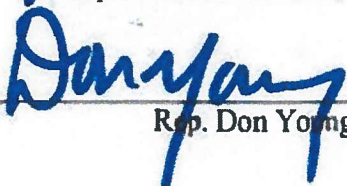
Rep. Doug Lamborn



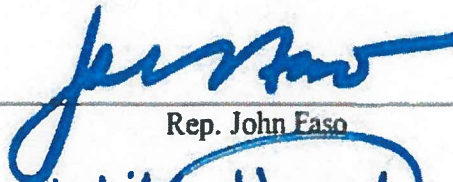
Rep. Ann McLane Kuster



Rep. P. James Sensenbrenner



Rep. Don Young



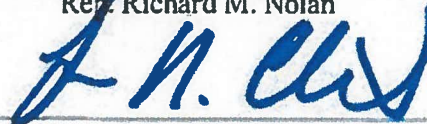
Rep. John Easo



Rep. William Hurd



Rep. Richard M. Nolan



Rep. Tom McClintock



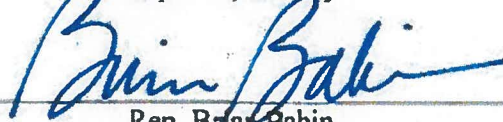
Rep. Steve King



Rep. Paul Gosar, D.D.S.



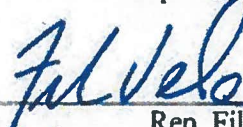
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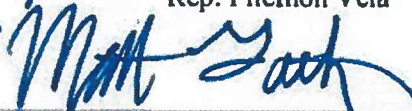
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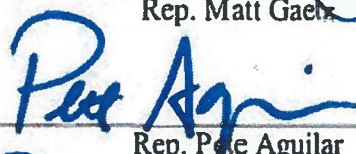
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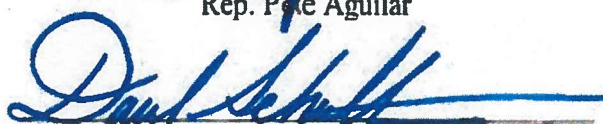
Rep. Filemon Vela



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Rep. Brett Guthrie

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Rep. Tom Rice

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Rep. Todd Rokita

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